

CONFIDENTIAL

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP  
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

25X1A9a

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT Russian Censorship of "Der Neue Weg,"  
Halle, Saxony-Anhalt

DATE: 25X1A2g

INFO.

DIST. 14 July 1947

PAGES 2 25X1A8a  
25X1A8a

SUPPLEMENT

ORIGIN

25X1A2g

25X1X6

REFERENCE CENTER LIBRARY

1. This report gives some indication of typical Russian censorship practices, as exercised upon the CDU's Halle newspaper, "Der Neue Weg." The following emendations were made to the proof sheets of the 7 February 1947 number: "the misstep of a great (German) people" was changed to "...of our people"; references to coal and fuel shortages in Merseburg and Magdeburg were struck out; a local color story on the price of dog flesh on the black market was removed; an ADN dispatch on the Mader murder case was crossed out with the order that the "Freiheit" (SED newspaper) version of this story be inserted in its place.
2. The 11 February 1947 edition of "Der Neue Weg" contained a feuilleton on the life of the Russian poet and playwright, Alexander Pushkin. The censor objected to the following items in this piece: reference to the fact that Pushkin's father was a mulatto and that his Negro grandfather was one of the Czar's body-servants; mention that Pushkin's wife was not worthy of him and that he was killed in a duel over her; mention that Pushkin had had the "privilege" of receiving a French education. A reference to "the extremity of our (German) economic destitution" in another article on the founding of the Halle Chamber of Technology was also censored.
3. An article in the 14 February 1947 issue on the opening of the Sachsen-Anhalt Landtag contained Deputy Muschke's speech of thanks to Marshal Sokolovsky. The deputy averred that the marshal's deeds had marked "the beginning of a new era of trusted cooperation between the occupation authorities and the civil population." This comment was removed by the censor. In an article on the same page describing a rally organized to aid refugees from the annexed provinces to the east, references to "Volk und Vaterland" and to "strong roots in the old soil" were struck out, as was also the remark that "The entire German people is duty-bound to share the sacrifices of the deportees." In another description of the opening of the Landtag, Minister President Ribbener was quoted as promising that rumors of corruption in various government departments would be investigated. All references to this investigation were deleted by the censor.
4. Two articles from the 18 February 1947 issue were scrapped in their entirety because they had not yet appeared in "Neue Zeit", the Berlin CDU organ. A piece on relief for refugees from the eastern provinces was also gone over by the censor's pencil so that the article was made to appear to be an appeal for aid to refugees in general, whatever their origin. No references to the East were retained in the article. A statement to the effect that

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

Document No. 5

NO CHANGE in Class

DECLASS

Class

Auth: DDA REG

Date: 24 Apr 77

FO: TS

DDA Memo 4 Apr 77

77/1763

S C

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 13 October 1973 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

Next Review Date: 13 Oct 77

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

-2-

the word "Heimat" was peculiarly German in its broad sense and meaning was likewise removed. A description of the present time as an "era of goods shortages" was removed by the censor in another article. A dispatch on the reconstruction of a Dessau hospital mentioned that aid had been received from abroad. This section was extracted by the censor.

This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Act, 50 U.S.C. 31 and 32 as amended. Its transmission or the revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~